

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 06414 030845Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
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P 030844Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5804
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 06414

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, US, BE, MARR, MPOL

SUBJECT: BELGIAN DEMARCHE RE PREPARATION NATO SUMMIT

1. DURING COURSE MEETING MARCH 31, MFA DIRECTOR OF NATO AFFAIRS, ERIK BAL, TOLD US THAT MFA HAS BECOME AWARE THAT DEPARTMENT OF OF STATE HAS BEEN DISCUSSING THE PREPARATION OF FORTHCOMING NATO SUMMIT WITH NATO EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON AND THAT SUCH DISCUSSIONS HAVE INCLUDED CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS. IF THIS IS THE CASE, BAL SAID, BELGIUM WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT STRONGLY OPPOSES SUCH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

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2. SAYING THAT PAST EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT PROCEDURAL AND AGENDA QUESTIONS CAN BE VERY COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT, BAL SAID THAT, IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSION, THEY SHOULD BE TREATED IN A MULTILATERAL CONTEXT, I.E. AT NATO.

3. BAL ADDED THAT BELGIAN PLANS TO RAISE SUBJECT IN AN INFORMAL

WAY AT NATO, PROBABLY THROUGH THE BELGIAN PERMREP. CHAMBERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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